

**JIM NICKELL**  
Rowan County Judge/Executive



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Received & Inspected

February 1, 2012 FEB 21 2012

The Honorable Julius Genachowski, Chairman  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12th Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20554

FCC Mail Room

S2358 SAT-MOD-20101118-00239 IB2010003539  
LightSquared Subsidiary LLC

Re: Docket No. 11-109

Dear Chairman Genachowski:

I am writing to support the efforts of the LightSquared company to use the satellite and tower-based LTE system that it is in the process of developing, to bring good cell phone service to all of our country, not just the urban and wealthy areas. I specifically write to support LightSquared's position in the Petition for Declaratory Ruling pending before the FCC.

Because small counties have been left out of the loop on technology issues for so long, we have taken a back seat economically to larger, more industrial areas. One of the things that could help counties like mine is having someone make a big investment in the type of communications systems that would provide good cell phone and internet service. I never understood how hard it was to govern until I was elected as County Judge-Executive of Rowan County, Kentucky. Until then, I did not understand that every decision in government involved weighing competing interests and making a decision in the best interest of the public. In a small county like mine, good cellular and wireless broadband coverage is a public safety issue as well as an economic issue. The county seat of Rowan County is Morehead, which is a larger town than the county seats of most Eastern Kentucky counties, and is the home to Morehead State University, and an area center of medicine, shopping, and education. And yet even in our county, when you get much past the Morehead city limits and out into the county, service quickly falls off, and in many rural areas of our county it is nonexistent.

LightSquared plans to invest over \$14 billion in our economy, and has already spent enough of that money to put up its satellite, which is already a huge investment. LightSquared will sell its service using small retailers, which would be independently owned, and would provide jobs in rural communities. I know that using all of our spectrum is also a goal of the FCC. Allowing LightSquared to go forward with its system would allow its spectrum to be used productively.

From what I have read, LightSquared has followed the law, and has done everything that the FCC has asked it to do. I understand that the GPS industry has raised concerns about the safety of LightSquared's system, and in particular that its signals may interfere with those in use by GPS units. In its filings, LightSquared has properly described the portion of the broadcast

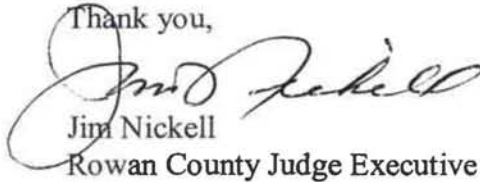
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spectrum that it proposes to use, and which has been assigned to it. My understanding is that GPS equipment makers have been on notice since 2001 to adjust their equipment so that it does not look into LightSquared's frequencies, but that the equipment continues to do so. I am no engineer, but it seems to me that this is the kind of problem that has been solved by engineers many times in the past, and I urge the FCC to give the engineers a further chance to work this problem out as well.

Counties like mine all across America are suffering from the lack of good cellular service and good wireless broadband access to the internet. LightSquared appears to be the only competitor in the market with the ability to solve that problem quickly. Therefore, I respectfully ask the FCC to grant LightSquared's petition, and if possible, to do so quickly.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jim Nickell", is written over the printed name and title.

Jim Nickell

Rowan County Judge Executive